

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

MARCOS RETURN



Imelda Marcos, widow of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, prays before the start of her campaign sortie at the Paoay church in Ilocos Norte, northern Philippines, Friday, March 26, 2010.

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SPORTS NEWS

NO JAIL TIME



Suspended Washington Wizards basketball player Gilbert Arenas, right, and his attorney Kenneth Wainstein depart Superior Court after a sentencing hearing in Washington, on Friday, March 26, 2010.

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Former Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi speaks to his supporters after the full election results released Friday for Iraq's 325-seat parliament show Allawi winning 91 seats, edging out Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's 89 seats in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, March 26, 2010.

Associated Press

Secular challenger claims victory in Iraq election

KATARINA KRATOVAC

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's secular former prime minister edged out Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in parliamentary vote totals released Friday, upsetting the Shiite-backed premier's re-election bid and earning the right to get the first shot at trying to form a government.

The narrow margin — 91 seats for Ayad Allawi's coalition to 89 for al-Maliki's alliance — sets the stage for months of political wrangling as the veterans of Iraq's young democracy attempt to win support for a majority coalition.

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U.S., Russia to slash nuclear weapons



President Barack Obama, accompanied by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates, brief reporters at the White House in Washington, Friday, March 26, 2010, after the president phoned Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to discuss the new START treaty.

Associated Press

ROBERT BURNS

TOM RAUM

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. and Russia sealed the first major nuclear weapons treaty in nearly two decades Friday, agreeing to slash the former Cold War rivals' warhead arsenals by nearly one-third and talking hopefully of eventually ridding a fearful world of nuclear arms altogether.

Continued on Page 4



A South Korean woman watches a TV screen reporting about a navy ship sinking in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, March 26, 2010. Officials say a South Korean navy ship is sinking off the country's west coast near the maritime border with North Korea.

Associated Press

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Her career rising, Palin now gives McCain a boost



Sen. John McCain background right, and Sarah Palin, former Alaska governor and Republican vice presidential nominee, make a campaign appearance at the Pima County Fairgrounds in Tucson, Ariz. Palin is the latest conservative star to back McCain in his Republican primary race against former U.S. Rep. J.D. Hayworth.

Associated Press

JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Sarah Palin lent her star power

among fellow conservatives to former running mate John McCain in his tough Senate re-election campaign, telling

a rally Friday that McCain pegged President Barack Obama right when he said the Democrat would swell the size of government.

McCain is facing the hardest election fight of his Senate career as he fends off a Republican primary challenge from the right. J.D. Hayworth, former congressman and conservative talk radio host, says McCain is too moderate for Arizona Republicans. Hayworth has tried to build support among conservative activists who identify with the tea party movement.

Palin, among the most popular figures with those activists, appeared with McCain for the first time since the pair lost the 2008 presidential election.

"Everyone here supporting John McCain, we are all part of that tea party movement," Palin told the rally.

As the former Alaska governor took the stage with McCain, some in the crowd of 4,000 chanted, "Sarah, Sarah," not

the name of the man who just a year and a half ago topped his party's ticket.

Palin said McCain warned the country that Obama's policies would increase the size of government and the debt, and that the signing this week of a health overhaul law proves McCain right.

McCain called for repeal of the health law, which Republicans are challenging in court and plan to make a leading issue in congressional elections.

"There's something going on out there, my friends," McCain said. "It's a revolution. It's a peaceful revolution, but we're going to take on this Obamacare."

Palin took heat this week when she released a list of 20 U.S. House seats she said conservatives should try to win in the November elections. The list, posted on her Facebook page, featured a U.S. map with circles and cross hairs over the 20 districts. She also sent a tweet saying, "Don't Retreat,

Instead - RELOAD!"

Critics said it was inappropriate to use gun imagery, especially as some Democrats who supported the health care overhaul reported receiving threats of violence.

Palin called it a "ginned up" controversy and defended her rhetoric. "When we take up our arms, we're talking about our vote," she said.

Palin said the Republican Party needs new blood and new leaders, "but we also need statesmen and heroes like John McCain in there to help us get through these challenging times." Hayworth has tried to define himself as "the consistent conservative" in contrast to the "maverick" McCain. Palin was a first-term governor of Alaska when McCain plucked her from relative obscurity to be his running mate. She went on to become a conservative draw and leading Republican critic of Obama and the Democrats in Congress. □



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Marine's Iraq killings trial to go forward

ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

CAMP PENDLETON, California (AP) — A military judge on Friday refused to dismiss charges against a Marine who led a squad that killed 24 Iraqi men, women and children in the town of Haditha after a bomb killed a Marine.

The ruling cleared the way for a court-martial for Staff Sgt. Frank Wuterich, the only remaining defendant in the biggest criminal case against U.S. troops to arise from the Iraq war. Marine Lt. Col. David Jones said attorneys for Wuterich failed to show that two generals who oversaw the case were influenced by a top aide who was disqualified under military policy from giving advice because he had investigated the killings on a previous assignment.

Wuterich, seated in uniform, showed no emotion when the judge denied the motion by his attorneys.

He later told reporters he was disappointed and upset by the ruling but looked forward to a jury trial.

"I'm actually happy to see that there is a trial date and this will be over soon," he said. "At least this is the beginning of the end."

Jones said it was probably not a good idea for the aide, Col. John Ewers, to have been in the room when the Haditha case was being discussed, but there was no suggestion that his presence influenced the generals or stifled junior attorneys who were present.

"The court must deal with the facts, not mere speculation or conjecture," Jones said.

The judge said he was convinced the general who brought charges in December 2006 and his successor who ordered a court-martial a year later had done extensive independent research.

"It is reassuring to know that the generals really did their homework ... and didn't merely act as a rubber stamp," Jones said.

The 30-year-old Wuterich, of Meriden, Connecticut, is one of eight Marines originally charged with murder or failure

to investigate the killings that occurred after the roadside bombing. Six have had charges dropped or dismissed, and one was acquitted.

A trial is scheduled for Sept. 13 for Wuterich on reduced charges of voluntary manslaughter in nine of the 24 deaths and other crimes in the November 2005 shootings. His attorneys said they anticipated no more delays.

Wuterich is currently assigned to administrative work at 1st Marine Division headquarters at Camp Pendleton and is working toward a certificate as a computer technician at a community college.

"It's hard to continue to do the job that I'm doing knowing that I'm really not going anywhere as far as my career," he said.

At his preliminary hearing, Wuterich said he regretted the loss of civilian lives but believed he was operating within military combat rules when he ordered his men to attack. He declined to discuss the killings with reporters Friday.

Wuterich did say he had "mixed feelings" that all the other defendants were exonerated.

"In part, I'm happy for them, but it's tough being the last guy going through this," he said, declining to elaborate.

An ending of the case would likely have met outcry in Iraq, where many see a lack of accountability for the actions of U.S. troops through the seven years of war.

Abdul-Rahman Najim al-Mashhadani, who heads the Baghdad-based Hammourabi NGO human rights organization, welcomed the ruling.

"It is a very important case and we feel happy that attention will be paid to a case dealing with human rights," he said. "This case is regarded as a success for us."

Iman Walid Abdul-Hamid, 14, from Haditha was wounded and lost her parents and a brother in the attack. U.S. troops took Iman, who was 9 at the time, and her 6-year-old brother to Baghdad for treatment.

"We were sleeping. My father was reciting Quran in another room, when the soldiers broke the door and shot him dead," she said. "These killers should be killed. Their case should not be closed before they are justly tried." The deaths occurred after a Marine was killed by the roadside bomb. Wuterich and a squad member were accused of shooting five men by a car at the scene. Investigators say Wuterich then ordered his men to clear several houses with grenades and gunfire.

A full investigation didn't begin until a Time magazine reporter inquired about the deaths in January 2006, two months later.

The judge previously said Wuterich's attorneys presented




credible evidence regarding the role Ewers but said Friday the government had addressed those concerns.

Gen. James Mattis, who brought charges, acknowledged during

testimony that Ewers was in the room when allegations of wartime abuse were discussed but denies ever getting advice from him on the Haditha case. □

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Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov speaks at a news conference in Moscow, Friday, March 26, 2010. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev agreed on Friday to sharp cuts in the nuclear arsenals of both nations in the most comprehensive arms control treaty in two decades.

NUCELAR WEAPONS

Continued from Front Page
 President Barack Obama said the pact was part of an effort to "reset" relations with Russia that have been badly frayed. And at home the agreement gave him the biggest foreign

Associated Press
 policy achievement of his presidency, just days after he signed the landmark health care overhaul that has been his domestic priority.

Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev will sign the agreement April 8 in

Prague, where Obama gave a major speech on doing away with nuclear arms one year ago. The city is the capital of the Czech Republic, a former Soviet satellite and now a NATO member.

If ratified by the Senate and by Russia's legislature, the reductions still would leave both countries, by far the world's largest nuclear powers, with immense arsenals — and the ability to easily annihilate each other. Together, the United States and Russia possess about 95 percent of the world's nuclear weapons, according to the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation.

Still, Obama called the pact a step toward "the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons." He said nuclear weapons "represent both the darkest days of the Cold War, and the most

troubling threats of our time." Agreed Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, "Both parties see the ultimate goal in building a nuclear-free world."

No one sees that any time soon. But U.S. leaders noted that the agreement came shortly before Obama was to host an international conference on nuclear proliferation in Washington.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called the treaty an "important milestone" and said he believed it would "add a significant impetus" to a U.N. conference in May to review the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

"We have turned words into action," Obama said at the White House after completing the agreement in a morning phone call with Medvedev. The White House said it was their 14th meeting or phone

call on the issue.

The United States hopes the 10-year agreement will lead to better cooperation on other issues, such as a unified U.S.-Russian stance against the development of nuclear weapons by Iran.

Ratification in the Senate will require 67 votes, two-thirds of the senators, meaning Obama will need support from Republicans, something he's found hard to come by on other issues. Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, the top Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, welcomed Friday's announcement. Lugar, who is influential among fellow Republican senators as an arms control expert, said he looked forward to receiving the treaty so that the committee could hold hearings and "work quickly to achieve ratification."

Under the agreement, which would replace and expand on a landmark 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty that expired in December, the two former Cold War foes would cut their arsenals of nuclear warheads to 1,550 — from the 2,200 previously permitted — over seven years. It would also trim the number of allowable missiles and bombers capable of carrying the warheads to targets.

"With this agreement, the United States and Russia — the two largest nuclear powers in the world — also send a clear signal that we intend to lead," Obama said.

In Moscow, the Kremlin hailed the agreement. Medvedev's spokeswoman, Natalya Timakova, said, "This treaty reflects the balance of interests of both nations."

There are still disagreements. According to U.S. officials, the accord won't restrict moving ahead on deployment of an American missile defense system — long a touchy subject between the two nations. □

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Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki speaks to the press in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, March 26, 2010. A secular challenger's bloc edged out the prime minister's in parliamentary elections, according to full vote returns Friday — a significant setback for Nouri al-Maliki, who has been the U.S. partner in Iraq for the past four years. Al-Maliki vowed to challenge the results, which gave his bloc 89 seats to Ayad Allawi's 91 in Iraq's 325-seat parliament.

Associated Press

IRAQ ELECTION

Continued from Front Page

The results were based on numbers released by the election commission and compiled by The Associated Press. The commission released the seat allocation by province but did not include an overall number of seats won.

Within minutes of the results being released, al-Maliki appeared on a nationally-televised news conference and announced he would not accept the results. Al-Maliki, who appeared with his supporters lined up behind him, said he would challenge the results through what he described as legal process.

The vote totals were released just hours after a twin bombing near a restaurant in a city north of Baghdad killed at least 40 people, highlighting the violence many Iraqis fear could mar the postelection process as both sides scramble to forge enough alliances to assemble a governing coalition.

The top official for the United Nations in Iraq, Ad Melkert, said the UN believed the country's March 7 parliamentary

elections were credible and called on all sides to accept the results. That thought was echoed by U.S. Amb. Christopher R. Hill and Gen. Ray Odierno, the top U.S. military official in Iraq, who praised what they described as a "historic electoral process," and said they support the finding of election observers who said there was no evidence of widespread or serious fraud.

Al-Maliki and his supporters in the State of Law coalition have previously called for a recount amid claims of vote rigging and fraud, but election officials refused.

The prime minister, who is fighting for a second four-year term, has widespread support from Iraq's Shiite majority but has tried to distance himself from his sectarian roots and portray himself as a nationalist who helped return stability to Iraq after years of violence. But his support for a ban of hundreds of candidates with alleged ties to Saddam Hussein's regime severely undercut any support he had from Sunnis, who felt the ban unfairly targeted their candidates.

Many Sunnis instead threw their weight behind Allawi,

a secular Shiite who has built a broad coalition drawn from both Islamic sects. Allawi, who served as prime minister from 2004 to 2005, has used his anti-Iran rhetoric to appeal to Sunnis who are wary of Tehran's influence with their Shiite-majority government.

The tight race has set the stage for protracted political wrangling over forming a new government that could spark new fighting and complicate American efforts to speed up troop withdrawals in the coming months.

Friday's blasts underscored the security risks that remain in Iraq. The two bombs exploded near a popular restaurant in Khalis, a town 50 miles north of Baghdad, injuring dozens of people, said Maj. Ghalib Al-Karkhi, the police spokesman in Diyala province.

The bloc that wins the most seats gets the first stab at choosing the prime minister and forming the new government, which will run the country as U.S. forces drawn down from their current level of about 95,000 to 50,000 by the end of August. All U.S. forces are slated to leave Iraq by the end of 2011. □



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SKorean naval ship sinks; 40 missing

JEAN H. LEE

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Word that a South Korean naval ship sank in the tense waters around the disputed maritime border with communist North Korea set off panic: The president convened an emergency meeting and the military dispatched a fleet of ships.

Five hours later, 58 sailors had been pulled to safety but some 40 others were missing, reports said. There was no indication early Saturday that North Korea was to blame for the ship's demise, but troops kept a vigilant watch.

Seoul's panic attack — hours after North Korea's military threatened “unpredictable strikes” against the U.S. and South Korea — highlighted the fragility of peace on the divided Korean peninsula.

The two Koreas remain locked in a state of war because their three-year conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty, in 1953.

Since then, the two Koreas have fought three bloody skirmishes in the Yellow Sea waters. And in January, North Korea fired about 30 artillery rounds not far from Baeknyeong; the South Korean military fired 100

warning shots in response.

The 1,200-ton “Cheonan” was on a routine patrolling mission near South Korea's Baeknyeong Island on Friday night with 104 crew members on board when the ship began taking on water, Rear Adm. Lee Ki-sik of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told reporters.

Unidentified military officials told South Korea's Yonhap news agency that an explosion tore a hole into the rear hull, shutting off the engine, wiping out the power and quickly taking the ship down. A number of crew members jumped into the water, Yonhap said.

Six naval ships and two coast guard vessels, as well as helicopters and ambulances, rushed to save the crew, Yonhap and military officials said. Troops scanned the skies for an attack, at one point firing shots at what officials later speculated was a flock of birds.

President Lee Myung-bak, meanwhile, convened a late-night emergency meeting with his defense minister and other top military officials. After three hours, and no conclusion about what caused the ship to sink, they agreed to meet again Saturday, presidential spokesman Lee Dong-kwan



South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, left, talks with South Korean Defense Minister Kim Tae-young, second from right, during the National Security Council (NSC) ministers meeting in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, March 26, 2010. Officials say a South Korean navy ship is sinking off the country's west coast near the maritime border with North Korea.

Associated Press

said.

President Lee ordered the military to focus on the rescue operation, he said.

Nearby Baeknyeong Island, four hours by boat from the South Korean port of Incheon but just 10 miles (20 kilometers) from North Korea, was turned into a triage center, with islanders helping to treat injured crew members, according to cable network YTN.

A naval official told Yonhap there were deaths among the sailors, and YTN said some 40 crew members were missing. However, military officials told the AP they could not confirm deaths, and said 58 sailors had been rescued, with two airlifted for emergency medical treatment.

The waters around Baeknyeong island are rocky, and some senior government officials speculated that the sinking

may have been an accident, not an attack, South Korean media said.

“It's looking more and more like it was just an accident that happens on a ship,” Carl Baker, an expert on Korean military relations at the Pacific Forum CSIS think tank in Honolulu, said by telephone.

He said Pyongyang was unlikely to attack the far more powerful South Korean military. □



Marcos, 80, seeks return in Philippine elections

Imelda Marcos, widow of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, waves to the crowd as her campaign sorties start in Batac, Ilocos Norte, northern Philippines on Friday March 26, 2010. Marcos is running for a seat in the house of representatives along with her son, senatorial bet Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr., and her daughter Imee, a gubernatorial candidate in the Marcos’s political stronghold of Ilocos Norte province in the northern Philippines.

Associated Press

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press Writer
BATAc, Philippines (AP) — Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos, bedecked in jade and diamonds, began a grueling campaign for a congressional seat Friday that she hopes will allow her to bury her ousted strongman husband in a heroes’ cemetery and clear his sullied name. Marcos, 80, and nearly 18,000 other politicians barnstormed the impoverished Southeast Asian nation on the first official day of campaigning for May 10 local elections. Presidential and senatorial candidates have been campaigning for more than a month. Police say political violence, which often goes hand-in-hand with festive campaigning, has already claimed close to 80 lives, including 57 people massacred Nov. 23 in an election caravan in the southern Philippines.

Also among the celebrity candidates is boxing star Manny Pacquiao, who is seeking a congressional seat in his southern province. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who has been threatened with criminal charges by critics when her turbulent term ends in June, is another candidate for the 287-seat lower chamber. Emerging from more than a decade of political obscurity, Marcos strode back into the scene with a vengeance. Her hair coifed back and wearing a bright orange

tunic with jade and diamond jewelry, she led journalists at daybreak to the mausoleum of her husband, Ferdinand Marcos, in Ilocos Norte province, his northern stronghold.

She mournfully kissed his glass coffin as cameras snapped. “This is one of our major injustices,” she said. She went to church and then rode on a flatbed campaign truck festooned with balloons and posters as thousands cheered her along the way. She was flanked by her daughter Imee, who is running for governor in Ilocos Norte, a tobacco-growing region about 250 miles north of Manila.

Her son, Ferdinand Marcos Jr., is seeking a Senate seat. Asked if she will push her long-standing campaign to have her husband buried in the national heroes’ cemetery in Manila if she wins, Marcos replied, “Of course.”

His burial there has been opposed by officials amid public outrage after Marcos — accused of corruption, political repression and widespread human rights abuses — was ousted in a 1986 “people power” revolt and died in exile in Hawaii three years later. Imelda Marcos and their three children were allowed to return to the Philippines in 1991.

“My ambition is to serve without end and to love without end,” Marcos said in a news conference in a hotel discotheque before her long convoy hit the road under a broiling sun.

Afflicted with diabetes and glaucoma, Imelda parried a question about her age.

“It’s true I’m 80 years old, but I can run and be a grandmother who can love and embrace the people more than a mother can,” Marcos said, drawing applause from friends.

She is forever remembered for the stunning jewels and 1,220 pairs of shoes she left

behind in the presidential palace.

She brought several new pairs for her campaign, aides said, and was wearing elegant leather sandals Friday.

Despite her reputation for extravagance, including shopping trips to the world’s poshest boutiques and lavish beautification projects in a nation wracked by poverty, she retained supporters and even won a congressional seat in 1995. She ran unsuccessfully for president in 1992 and again in 1998.

Many Filipinos were incensed by her unashamed opulence, but others, especially the generation born after 1986 with no memory of martial law under the 20-year Marcos regime, view her as a celebrity.

Despite some 900 civil and criminal cases she has faced in Philippine courts since 1991 — cases ranging from embezzlement and corruption to tax evasion — she has emerged relatively unscathed and never served prison time. All but a handful of the cases have been dismissed for lack of evidence and a few convictions were overturned on appeal.

Marcos is running for a congressional seat in Ilocos Norte under her husband’s political party, the New Society Movement, which has weakened considerably since his death. In Ilocos Norte, a laid-back province of 390,000 where the late strongman built a network of fine roads, an international airport and seaports, the Marcoses are adored.

“This is Marcos country, no ifs or buts,” said village guard Elmer Macuco, who waited to see Imelda in one of the 21 towns she planned to tour Friday.

“She helps us and entertains us and has put us in history,” Macuco said.

Clearing the family name remains an obsession, Marcos said. Until that happens, she said, “I cannot rest.” □

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Police chief decapitated in northern Mexico town

MARK WALSH

Associated Press Writer

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)

— The decapitated body of the police chief of a northern Mexico town and the body of his brother were found inside the chief's patrol truck Friday, authorities said.

Hours earlier, gunmen killed a deputy police chief and his bodyguard in another part of Mexico's north.

The body of Heriberto Cerda, the police chief in Agualeguas, was found on the bed of a patrol pickup truck, which was left on a dirt road in the nearby town of General Trevino.

His head was on his lap, said a spokesman for Nuevo Leon state prosecutors who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the case.

The body of the chief's brother, Jesus Cerda, was found inside the truck, the official said. He didn't say how Jesus Cerda was killed.

Nuevo Leon state secretary general Javier Trevino told reporters that Cerda and his

brother had been reported missing Thursday.

The windshield and driver's door of the patrol car had "C.D.G.," an acronym for the Gulf drug cartel, written in blood, photos showed.

The border state of Nuevo Leon, where Agualeguas and General Trevino are located, has seen an upsurge in violence that authorities say is the result of a turf battle between the Gulf cartel and the Zetas, the cartel's former hit men.

The slayings came a day after Mexican marines on patrol in the Nuevo Leon town of Cerralvo came under fire after ordering a convoy of gunmen traveling in six vehicles to stop. Six of the assailants were killed.

Nearly 18,000 people have died in drug-related violence since President Felipe Calderon launched an assault on cartels after taking office in December 2006.

In the northern state of Sonora, gunmen in a pickup truck fatally shot the deputy police chief and his bodyguard in the city of

Nogales, which sits across the border from the Arizona city of the same name, authorities said Friday.

Sonora state police said gunmen opened fire on the victims with Kalashnikov rifles Thursday night.

Tony Estrada, sheriff of Santa Cruz County, Arizona, said the killings were very troubling amid concerns that drug violence could spill over the border, but he believes Mexico's drug traffickers don't want to tangle with U.S. authorities.

"Their turf wars are on the Mexican side right now, and that's where they're concentrating all of their violence," Estrada said. "And we're hopeful that's where it will stay."



Forensic experts examine a police patrol car after police found the decapitated body of a town police chief and the body of his brother inside the car near the town of General Trevino, Mexico Friday March 26, 2010. The windshield and driver's door of Cerda's patrol car had "C.D.G.," an acronym for the Gulf drug cartel, written in blood.

Associated Press

The U.S. State Department cities who send family recently offered to members out of the area compensate its employees because of concerns about rising drug violence. □

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Rock photographer Jim Marshall dies at 74

By LISA LEFF,

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO – Music photographer Jim Marshall, who spent more than a half-century capturing rock-and-



FILE - in this July 26, 2009 file photo tenor Placido Domingo pose on the grid prior to the start of the Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix at the Hungaroring circuit near Budapest, Hungary. .

(AP Photo/Gero Breloer, File)

Domingo returns after cancer, singing privately

LOS ANGELES – Placido Domingo says he is still tender following surgery to remove a cancerous polyp from his colon, but he has returned to work and resumed singing in private — and plans to be back on stage in a couple weeks.

The 69-year-old Spanish tenor became ill on tour in Tokyo, had surgery early this month at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and has been recuperating in Acapulco, Mexico.

He returned to Los Angeles on Thursday and a few hours later was back at work as director of the Los Angeles Opera Company.

Domingo told reporters during a break he planned to begin rehearsals for “Simon Boccanegra” at Italy’s La Scala in two weeks.

The malignancy was localized so Domingo was able to undergo minimally invasive surgery to remove the polyp.



This Wednesday, May 29, 2002 photo shows photographer Jim Marshall in the hallway of his home in San Francisco. Marshall, who spent more than a half-century capturing rock-and-roll royalty ranging from the Beatles to Ben Harper at work and in repose, has died Wednesday, March 24, 2010 according to a gallery manager. He was 74.

(AP Photo/San Francisco Chronicle, Scott Sommerdorf)

roll legends including the Beatles, Bob Dylan and Janis Joplin at work and in repose, has died. He was 74.

Marshall’s death in New York City was confirmed Wednesday by Aaron Zych, a manager at the Morrison Hotel Galleries, which hosted one of the photographer’s last exhibits.

Marshall had been scheduled to appear at a reception Wednesday night to promote

his new book with celebrity photographer Timothy White. He apparently died in his sleep sometime overnight while alone in his New York hotel room, Zych said.

“Jim’s work is legendary,” he said. “As far as music photographers, he is the godfather.”

The cause of death was not immediately known.

According to his professional Web site, Marshall had more

than 500 album covers to his credit. The San Francisco resident was best-known for his iconic images from the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, where he photographed Jimi Hendrix setting his guitar ablaze, and 1969’s Woodstock, where as an official photographer he captured The Who tearing up the stage at sunrise.

Marshall also was the only photographer granted backstage access at what turned out to be the final Beatles concert, at San Francisco’s Candlestick Park in 1966. Good timing and his rapport with musicians also helped him catch Johnny Cash memorably “flipping the bird” at a 1969 performance at San Quentin Prison.

Other famous subjects included Bob Dylan, The Grateful Dead, Janis Joplin and The Rolling Stones.

“This ‘career’ has never been just a job — it’s been my life,” Marshall remarked on his Web site.

Born in Chicago on Feb. 3, 1936, Marshall moved with his parents at age 2 to San Francisco’s Fillmore District, then the heart of the city’s jazz

scene. He bought the first of his beloved Leica cameras in 1959, and a year later, during what he would describe as a “life-changing meeting” with saxophonist John Coltrane, he found his professional calling. Before his lens discovered rock-and-roll, Marshall continued to find inspiration in jazz musicians, including Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk. He also depicted poverty in rural Appalachia and the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi during the early 1960s.

Marshall spent two years living in New York, but returned to San Francisco in time to witness the birth of the 1960s counterculture and to meet young talent like Hendrix, Joplin and Jefferson Airplane during the city’s Summer of Love.

His more recent subjects included Ben Harper and the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Marshall’s work has appeared in numerous books, including four featuring only his own photographs. “Match Point,” his most recent, a collaboration with Timothy White, was published this month.

Moises de la Renta Makes His Mark with New Tees for Mango



Model poses at the Moises de la Renta for Mango Spring 2010 collection presentation in New York on Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Renata Espinosa

New York – Oscar de la Renta is not the only person in his family who can add “dressed a first lady” to his resume. His 25-year-old son Moises, a fashion designer who has two of his own collections already under his belt, recently saw Michelle Obama wear a dress

from his autumn 2009 collection.

“I was super psyched, it was super cool,” said Moises de la Renta with a smile. “The honor of a lifetime.”

The young de la Renta was on hand in New York Wednesday, March 24, for a preview of his new collection of embellished t-shirts for Spanish retailer Mango.

Retailing at a wallet-friendly price of \$49.90 to \$69.90, these aren’t your average embellished tees that tack a few crystals on in the shape of a heart or a rose and call it a day. They’re quite a bit more elegant than that.

“I wanted to do something out of my league and kind of present a more classic romanticism,” said de la Renta, whose signature collection, MDLR, features darker, moodier downtown-meets-uptown looks for city girls. “But also, a little hint of fierceness, a little rock and roll edge.”

The result is a cool capsule collection of dark yet pretty t-shirts that would be suitable for sophisticated, yet edgy downtown types ready to unleash their inner rock n’ roll ballerina. Shirts might have tufts of tulle embellished with beads and pearls, tough gold chains woven

into a jersey bib and tied around the neck or a lion’s head sketch on a black t-shirt with leather appliqué epaulettes. Another simple yet chic white t-shirt features a wide scoop neck encircled by a stiff white jersey ribbon.

Though the models at the preview wore the shirts tucked into long tulle ballerina skirts with wide satin bow belts - jersey never looked quite as polished - de la Renta envisioned a more casual, but not less versatile, end result for the tees.

“You can tuck it in, you can wear it straight, you can wear it under a pantsuit, but at the same time you can throw on the jeans, go out on the town, out to the club, you know?” he said.

De la Renta plans to show his Spring 2011 MDLR collection in September - “I’m psyched. Cross my fingers!” - and wouldn’t mind seeing Michelle Obama wear another one of this dresses, though he’d also be happy should Meryl Streep or Tilda Swinton - “women’s women” - decide to call in a request.

“These are people I’ve always looked up to, very strong characters, strong personalities, and I think at the heart that’s what I’m trying to represent with my clothes,” said de la Renta.

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY



FILE - In this Feb. 19, 2010 file photo, a foreclosed house is shown in East Palo Alto, Calif. After months of criticism that it hasn't done enough to prevent foreclosures, the Obama administration is announcing a plan to reduce the amount some troubled borrowers owe on their home loans.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma, file)

Gov't unveils plan to shrink some home loans

By ALAN ZIBEL
and CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — Under pressure to stem the foreclosure crisis, the Obama administration launched a plan Friday to reduce the amount some troubled borrowers owe on their home loans and give jobless homeowners a temporary break.

Administration officials cautioned that the plan won't stop all foreclosures or help all troubled homeowners. Instead, officials said their goal is to meet their original target, announced last year, of helping 3 million to 4 million borrowers avoid foreclosure.

The new effort is designed to help two groups:

- Borrowers who owe more on their loans than their houses are worth. Nearly 15 million homeowners fall into this category, according to Moody's Analytics. About 10 million of them owe at least 20 percent more than their house's current value.

These people would be helped in either of two ways: Their mortgage companies can cut the total amount they owe on their mortgage. Or they can refinance into loans backed by the Federal Housing Administration, which insures loans against default. The FHA will get \$14 billion in incentive money from the federal bailout fund.

- Unemployed borrowers. People receiving unemployment benefits would see their mortgage payments drop to no more than 31 percent of their monthly income — but only for three to six months. That's intended to give homeowners more time to find a job. Once they do, they may qualify for a loan modification that would permanently reduce their payments.

The administration's existing program to prevent foreclosures has failed to make a dent in the problem. A lack of planning and shifting rules on qualifications for it produced a huge backlog in the program, the special inspector general for the federal financial bailout fund told lawmakers this week. Only 170,000 homeowners have completed loan modifications out of 1.1 million who began the program over the past year. On Friday, administration officials played down any notion that the new plan would solve the foreclosure epidemic. About 6 million homeowners have missed at least two months of payments. □

Stocks give up early gains for 2nd straight day

By STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks gave up an early advance for a second day Friday after investors found little to extend the market's climb.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 2 points in afternoon trading after being up as much as 68 in the early going. A similar rise then fall occurred Thursday. Analysts said the quick surrender of the early advances is a sign that stocks have risen too fast. The Dow has climbed 16 of the past 20 days.

Stocks rose early Friday after European leaders agreed to a bailout program for debt-burdened Greece. But the gains faded as traders grew cautious after the recent string of advances, which have come on light volume. When trading volume is weak, investors often worry that only a small number of buyers are driving the market higher.

"The market is extremely vulnerable to a pullback," said Christian Bendixen, director of technical research at Bay Crest Partners in New York. The early climb and afternoon slide also occurred Thursday. Analysts said traders were concerned whether Greece would get help from other European Union countries to manage its debt. Traders also said that investors have been quick to sell on any hint of bad news.

"Given the sharp decline late Thursday (and) substantial rise of the last few weeks, investors may be trigger-happy to lock in gains at any sign of selling," said Michael Sheldon, chief market strategist at RDM Financial Group.

In midafternoon trading, the Dow fell 2.19, or less than 0.1 percent, to 10,839.02. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 1.92, or 0.2 percent, to 1,163.81, while the Nasdaq



A trader works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, March 12, 2010.

composite index fell 8.99, or 0.4 percent, to 2,388.42.

Bond prices rose, pushing down yields. Weak demand at the government's latest auctions for Treasury notes has sent prices tumbling and interest rates sharply higher earlier this week.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.86 percent from 3.89 percent late Thursday. The 10-year note is often used as a benchmark for interest rates on consumer loans.

Rob Lutts, president and chief investment officer of Cabot Money Management, said the weak demand and higher yields could be a preview of future movement as foreign investors question growing deficits in the U.S.

However, rates have been so low that markets can absorb further rises without much an effect in the near future, Lutts said. The early gain in stocks came after the European Union and International Monetary Fund created a bailout program that will help Greece and other European nations facing rising debt. The deal reached late Thursday will not make money immediately available to Greece, but instead act more as a safety net.

"It reinforces there will be a rescue and support for Greece," said Oliver Pursche, executive vice president at Gary Goldberg Financial Services.

REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

"It lays the groundwork for future rescue packages."

Investors have worried that mounting debt problems in places like Greece, Portugal and Spain would spread to other countries and hamper a global economic rebound.

The reassurance that Greece will get aid, if necessary, helped the euro rise against the dollar, bouncing off 10-month lows seen earlier this week.

Investors brushed aside a final update to the gross domestic product report that showed the U.S. economy grew at a 5.6 percent pace in the fourth quarter, just below the 5.9 percent forecast by economists polled by Thomson Reuters.

Much of the fourth-quarter growth was tied to a surge in spending from government stimulus measures and manufacturing as businesses restocked exceptionally low inventories. Those gains are seen as temporary, so GDP likely slowed sharply in the first quarter.

Consumer spending also remains weak and has not been able to replace the slack from a slowdown in government measures.

Consumers are cautious because unemployment remains high, analysts say.

The Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index for March was revised to 73.6 from a previous estimate of 72.5. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Tampa Bay Lightning center Steven Stamkos (91) is congratulated by teammates after his goal in the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Boston Bruins in Boston, Thursday, March 25, 2010. From left are Alex Tanguay (13), Steve Downie (9), Stamkos, and Mike Lundin.

Associated Press

NHL Roundup

Stamkos leads Lightning past Bruins 5-3

BOSTON (AP) — Steve Stamkos scored twice to take a share of NHL season lead with 45 goals, and Paul Szczechura also had a pair of goals to lead the Tampa Bay Lightning to a 5-3 victory over the Boston Bruins on Thursday night.

Antero Niittymaki stopped 47 shots for the 500th victory. The Lightning have won two straight since losing five in a row — and 12 of 14 — to fall to the brink of elimination in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Niittymaki stopped 19 shots in the third period as Boston tried furiously but belatedly to come back from a three-goal deficit.

Tuukka Rask made 13 saves for Boston, which has won just two of its last 14 home games.

Stamkos scored just 49 seconds into the game and then added another with 26 seconds remaining in the second period to make it 4-2 and give him 45 for the season. That equals Washington's Alexander Ovechkin and Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby for the NHL lead. Martin St. Louis also scored for Tampa Bay. Zdeno Chara, Johnny Boychuk and Mark Recchi scored for Boston. The Bruins are eighth in the Eastern Conference, two points head of Atlanta for the final playoff spot.

Sharks 3, Stars 0

At San Jose, California, Evgeni Nabokov made 27 saves for his 50th career shutout as San Jose

clinched a playoff berth while climbing back atop the Western Conference.

Defensemen Dan Boyle and Rob Blake scored power-play goals in the second period for San Jose, which has won two straight after a 0-5-1 skid over the previous 10 days.

Logan Couture also scored.

At Newark, New Jersey, Chris Drury scored the equalizer with 16.5 seconds left in regulation and Erik Christensen had the only tally in the shootout for New York.

Christensen scored on the first attempt of the shootout, and Henrik Lundqvist made it stand up with saves against Zach Parise, Patrik Elias and Travis Zajac. The Rangers, 10th in the Eastern Conference, moved within three points of eighth-place Boston and five behind No. 7 Philadelphia.

Jamie Langenbrunner and Elias both scored tiebreaking goals in the third for the Devils, who regained first place in the Atlantic Division over Pittsburgh.

In other NHL matches it was: N.Y. Rangers 4, New Jersey 3, SO; Carolina 3, Washington 2, SO; Nashville 4, Phoenix 3, SO; Tampa Bay 5, Boston 3; N.Y. Islanders 3, Calgary 2; Minnesota 4, Philadelphia 3, OT; Toronto 2, Atlanta 1, OT; Columbus 8, Chicago 3; Montreal 4, Florida 1; St. Louis 3, Los Angeles 1; and San Jose 3, Dallas 0.



Suspended Washington Wizards basketball player Gilbert Arenas departs Superior Court after a sentencing hearing in Washington, on Friday, March 26, 2010. Arenas was ordered Friday to spend 30 days in a halfway house for his conviction on gun charges stemming from a locker-room confrontation with a teammate. District of Columbia Superior Court Judge Robert E. Morin also sentenced Arenas to 400 of community service, which cannot be conducted at basketball clinics, and \$5,000 fine.

Associated Press

Wizards' Arenas to spend 30 days in halfway house

JOSEPH WHITE

MATTHEW BARAKAT

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Suspended Washington Wizards star Gilbert Arenas was ordered Friday to spend 30 days in a residence for detention prior to release for his conviction on gun charges following a locker-room confrontation with a teammate.

Continued on Page 14

Wayne Odesnik fined for importing HGH

JOHN PYE

AP Sports Writer

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — U.S. player Wayne Odesnik faces a ban from tennis after being fined Friday for importing human growth hormone into Australia.

The 24-year-old Odesnik was stopped by customs officers on Jan. 2 as he arrived in Australia for the Brisbane International and Australian Open, and eight vials, each containing 6 milligrams of the performance-enhancing substance, were found in his baggage.

Odesnik, pleaded guilty in the Brisbane Magistrates Court to importing the hormone, the Australian Customs Service said in a statement late Friday.

Continued on Page 15



In this Jan. 7, 2010, file photo, Wayne Odesnik of the United States, looks dejected during his quarterfinal match against Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic at the Brisbane International tennis tournament in Brisbane, Australia.

Associated Press

Els in 4-way share of lead; Mickelson in the mix

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Ernie Els was like so many others at the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Friday — tied for the lead and not quite sure how he got there.

Els had to play out of the water to save par on the sixth and steady his round of 3-under 69. Davis Love III had seven birdies, two of those when he holed out a chip and a bunker shot, and settled for a 71.

Ben Curtis started his round with two straight bogeys but shot 31 on the back nine on his way to a 67, while D.J. Trahan had a 68 to join them in a four-way tie for the lead at 7-under 137.

“It’s been kind of weird, but a little surprised that I’m in the lead,” Els said. “But you know, we’re there. It should be an interesting weekend, and obviously looking forward to it.”

They were at 7-under 137, one shot ahead of Mickelson (67), Retief Goosen (67) and Kevin Na (70).

Mickelson is starting to find his putting stroke at just the right time.

The evidence came not so much from what he shot at Bay Hill that put him into the thick of contention, but from a casual round earlier this week in the California desert — Mickelson shot a 58, the lowest score of his life.

“How did you hear about that?” Mickelson said, unaware either that good news travels fast or that he had mentioned it moments earlier in a TV interview.

He made 12 birdies and an eagle at The Plantation Golf Club in Indio, which Fred Couples helped design. Mickelson went there because the greens are similar to Bay Hill. “I ended up getting the putter going there, as well, and shot 58, yeah. That was fun.”

Friday at Bay Hill was as wild as it was fun, and not just for Mickelson, who hit two balls into the water and holed a

wedge for eagle.

Love holed two more shots from off the green. And then he finished with back-to-back bogeys. Els bogeyed two of his first five holes and was on the verge of making more bogeys until he turned it around.

Love will remember the 35-foot birdie putt on the 15th, holing out for birdie from a deep bunker in front of the 17th green and chipping in for birdie in front of the seventh green. The ball in the water at No. 8 or the short par putt he missed on the 14th? Forgotten.

“If you would have said Wednesday night whenever I was leaving the course, ‘You’ll be 7 under after two days and right at the top of the leaderboard,’ I’d have taken it,” Love said. “It’s right where you want to be. You want to be in the hunt.”

Love needs a victory at Bay Hill or next week in the Houston Open to get into the Masters.

Mickelson has not come close to winning all year, so it was inspiring for him to get to 6 under. His round, however, was far more complicated than making a series of putts.

It usually is with Mickelson, which is why he could only laugh when asked if he found the day to be stressful or if that was just a typical round.

“I find that an interesting question because there’s some legitimacy to it,” Mickelson said. “I have a tendency to have up-and-down rounds like that. But it’s fun. I enjoy trying to create shots and hit shots and take on some of these pins and make birdies, and unfortunately, I tend to make a few mistakes at times.”

Starting on the back nine, he poured in three straight birdies from the 11th hole, then added a fourth the not-so-conventional way on the par-5 16th. Fans saw him lay up short of the water and hit a wedge that skipped up the big ridge and stop 3 feet away.

“I fatted a hybrid,” he said,

chunking the shot so badly that it worked out perfectly.

Indeed, putting saved his round, even if the biggest putts were for bogey. He drove into the water on No. 3 and had to make a 12-foot putt to limit the damage to a bogey, then drove into the water on the par-5 sixth and wound up making a 15-foot bogey putt.

“Those bogey putts were every bit as important as some of the other stuff,” Mickelson said.

Love can relate. He now has holed four shots from off the green, which has compensated for some blunders.

He made six birdies on the back nine, where he started



Ernie Els, of South Africa, hits a shot from the 18th tee during the second round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament at Bay Hill in Orlando, Fla., Friday, March 26, 2010.

Associated Press

his round, only to kick himself over the three bogeys. Love did well to make bogey on No. 8 after hitting his approach into the water, although driving into a fairway bunker at No. 9 left him no hope of getting to the green, where he made his sixth bogey of the round.

Rarely does a player make six

bogeys and stay in the lead.

“A little erratic,” Love said. “Made some pretty simple mistakes today that are a little more disappointing than yesterday’s mistakes, but again, I made a lot of nice putts, hit a lot of good shots, and obviously made a lot of birdies.” □

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NBA Roundup

O'Neal scores 24 as Heat humiliate Bulls 103-74



Miami Heat's Jermaine O'Neal (7) shoots over Chicago Bulls' Taj Gibson (22) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Friday, May 12, 2010.

CHICAGO (AP) — Jermaine O'Neal scored 24 points as the Miami Heat took to a 30-point halftime lead en route to a 103-74 win over the Chicago

Bulls on Thursday. Pushing for a better playoff seeding, Miami's third straight victory and ninth in 12 games lifted the Heat into the No. 6

slot in the Eastern Conference, a half game ahead of idle Charlotte.

Michael Beasley added 15 points for the Heat and Udonis Haslem had 14 on a night when Dwyane Wade scored only 12 in 29 minutes — 14.5 under his average. Wade did have 10 assists and five rebounds.

Hakim Warrick scored 14 points and Taj Gibson and Derrick Rose had 12 each for the Bulls.

Clippers 99, Rockets 93

At Houston, Craig Smith scored a season-high 25 points and had 10 rebounds as Los Angeles ended an 11-game road losing streak.

Drew Gooden had 17 points and 14 rebounds, Baron

Davis scored 16 points and Eric Gordon added 14 for the Clippers, who hadn't won on the road since Feb. 2.

Trevor Ariza and Aaron Brooks each scored 18 points, and Luis Scola had 16 points and 14 rebounds for Houston. Trail Blazers 101, Mavericks 89

At Portland, Oregon, LaMarcus Aldridge had 20 points and 10 rebounds as Portland defeated Dallas for the third time this

season.

Marcus Camby added 17 points and 11 rebounds for Portland, which won the season series from the Mavericks for the first time since the 1998-99 season.

Portland has won five straight at home and six of its last seven games overall.

Caron Butler had 25 points for Dallas, which has lost four of its last five games after a 13-game winning streak. □

ARENAS

Continued from Page 12

Along with the time to be spent in a halfway house, designed to help people reintegrate with society, District of Columbia Superior Court Judge Robert E. Morin also sentenced Arenas to 400 hours of community service, which cannot be conducted at basketball clinics, and a \$5,000 fine.

Arenas apologized in court, saying, "Every day, I wake up wishing it did not happen."

Arenas pleaded guilty to violating the city's gun laws in a Dec. 21 incident at Verizon Center. Following an argument over an unpaid gambling debt totaling a few hundred dollars, Arenas brought several guns to the team locker room and set them near Javaris Crittenton's locker with a sign telling him to "PICK 1." "The evidence is that both of you felt disrespected," Morin told Arenas. "Rather than acting like mature adults, you escalated the incident" by bringing guns to practice.

After sentencing, Arenas' lawyer, Ken Wainstein, said he was pleased with the outcome.

"Judge Morin's decision was fair and measured; it reflected a deep understanding of the relevant facts ... Mr. Arenas is grateful to the court and looks forward to serving the community and once again being a force for good in the District of Columbia," Wainstein said in a statement.

In court papers, prosecutors said Crittenton had a legitimate reason to believe Arenas' threat was genuine.

Prosecutors had wanted Arenas to go to jail for at least three months. They said he lied repeatedly about why the guns were in the locker room and tried to cover up what had happened. They also said he knew bringing guns into D.C. was illegal and has a prior gun conviction.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher Kavanaugh wrote in court papers that "if any other individual — without the fame, power, and the wealth of this defendant — brought four firearms into Washington, D.C., for the purpose of a similar confrontation," they would surely go to jail.

Arenas' lawyers sought probation and community service, arguing the incident was a misguided prank with no intention to harm anyone. They pointed out that the guns were unloaded, that Arenas' lighthearted comments about the incident were misinterpreted, and that he's a good role model who excelled at community service.

"This sad saga has sent a strong message to any and all who might consider bringing guns into the district," defense attorneys wrote. Arenas' sentence could determine whether the Wizards will attempt to void the remainder of his six-year, \$111 million contract, although the players' union has vowed to fight such a move.

Regardless, Arenas' misdeed has helped contribute to the precipitous decline of a franchise, which is headed for its second consecutive last-place finish after years of regularly reaching the playoffs. □

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Seattle Sounders' Fredy Montero (17) looks for room to pass past Philadelphia Union's Stefani Miglioranza in the first half of an MLS soccer game Thursday, March 25, 2010, in Seattle.

Associated Press

MLS Roundup

Sounders down new team Philadelphia 2-0

SEATTLE (AP) — Fredy Montero set up the first goal of the 2010 Major League Soccer season, then scored with a diving header as the Seattle Sounders started its second year with an impressive 2-0 win over newcomer Philadelphia Union on Thursday.

Brad Evans beat Philadelphia keeper Chris Seitz after capitalizing on deft passes by Montero and Steve Zakuani. Minutes before halftime, Montero's diving header redirected Osvaldo Alonso's drive that looked to be headed wide.

The start of the 15th season of the MLS was in doubt until last weekend when the players and owners agreed on a new five-year labor contract. With the labor strife resolved, the Sounders went out and looked like the league favorite many have predicted.

The Union's debut wasn't helped when defender Toni Stahl was sent off in the 41st minute after receiving a second yellow card.

Sebastien Le Toux, at one time the first player Seattle ever signed before being taken in the draft by Philadelphia, had the Union's best scoring chance. His shot beat his former teammate Kasey Keller in the 38th minute, but he was called back for being offside. □

ODESNIK

Continued from Page 12

He was fined 8,000 Australian dollars (\$7,280) plus A\$1,142.80 (US\$1,040) in court costs.

"We are extremely disappointed in the behavior of this individual, which is in no way representative of the sport of tennis," the ATP said in a statement e-mailed to The Associated Press.

ATP spokeswoman Kate Gordon wrote that she couldn't comment on any details of the case because it's considered a "current investigation."

Tennis Australia declined comment on Friday, referring questions about Odesnik to the International Tennis Federation. The ITF said it had received notification that Odesnik had pleaded guilty to possession of HGH.

"The case has been referred to the tennis anti-doping program, and we don't have any further comment," the ITF said in a statement to the AP. "It's just like any other case that gets referred to the anti-doping program, we don't have a comment on it." Under the World Anti-Doping Code — to which the ITF is a signatory — Odesnik faces a possible two-year suspension for possession of a prohibited substance.

Odesnik spends part of the year training in Miami. He's

coached there by former top-10 player Guillermo Canas of Argentina, who served a 15-month ban in 2005-06 after failing a doping test. Canas, who coincidentally announced his retirement as a player on Friday, said he doesn't travel with Odesnik and was surprised to hear about the HGH case.

Odesnik ranked 98th, reached the quarterfinals at the Brisbane International and the second round of the Australian Open. He has since played in four tournaments in the U.S., advancing beyond the first round just once.

He turned pro in 2004 and is something of a journeyman, with a 32-42 career record in tour-level matches. He has reached one ATP final, on clay at Houston last year.

The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority was aware of the charges against Odesnik.

"ASADA is aware of the matter announced by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service," ASADA said in a statement.

"Under its legislation, ASADA has power to receive information from Customs and to carry out investigations into possible violations of anti-doping rules.

"Under its legislation, ASADA is unable to provide further comment at this time."

Marion Grant, a spokeswoman for the Customs Service's Border Protection Enforcement, said: "This prosecution ... should act as an important deterrent for other elite athletes who are considering similar activities."

Australia's Customs Act has an extensive list of performance-enhancing substances subject to import control. □

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Djokovic upset by Rochus at Key Biscayne



Olivier Rochus, of Belgium, reacts after defeating Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, 6-2, 6-7 (7), 6-4 in the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Fla., Friday, March 26, 2010.

Associated Press

STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

KEY BISCAINE, Florida (AP) — Former champion Novak Djokovic lost his opening match at the Sony Ericsson Open to Olivier Rochus 6-2, 6-7 (7), 6-4 on Friday.

Djokovic won the tournament in 2007 and arrived at Key Biscayne with a 15-3 record this year. But he looked listless at times against Rochus, and by the third set fans were groaning as his errors mounted. Ranked No. 2, Djokovic drew scattered jeers when he left the court. He responded with a thumbs-up signal.

Djokovic double-faulted 10 times and lost 30 of 44 second-serve points, including 13 of 17 in the final set. He committed 62 unforced errors and converted only three of 13 break-point chances.

Rochus, ranked 59th, improved to 5-8 this year.

In women's play, No. 2-seeded Caroline Wozniacki rallied past qualifier Tsvetana Pironkova 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. Defending champion Victoria Azarenka won her opening match, beating Alexandra Dulgheru 6-3, 6-2.

Azarenka, seeded fourth, advanced Friday on the same court where she earned the biggest victory of her career a year ago, beating Serena Williams in the final.

Azarenka finished shortly before rain began to fall, causing a 2½-hour delay. There was another delay of 50 minutes later in the afternoon.

In men's play, No. 24 Ivo Karlovic hit 28 aces, held every service game and beat Daniel Gimeno-Traver 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-3. Karlovic had been 0-6 previously at Key Biscayne.

No. 12 Juan Carlos Ferrero and No. 15 David Ferrer also won. Rafael Nadal and Andy Roddick were among those with matches scheduled later Friday. □

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All ready for installation new Antilles Parliament

WILLEMSTAD — On Friday the new Members of the Parliament of the Netherlands Antilles sworn in by Governor Frits Goedgedrag, thus giving way for Parliament to start its new term in office.

The swearing-in ceremony will took place at the governor's palace, while in the afternoon there was the first meeting of the new Parliament with on the agenda the election of Pedro Atacho (PAR) and Faroe Metry (PNP) as respectively the President and Vice-President,

On Monday at 2pm, the meetings of the various committees of Parliament will start one after another to elect and install the president and vice-president of each.

There are 10 standing committees in Parliament at the moment and one ad hoc committee.

On Tuesday the committee for Kingdom Affairs and Parliamentary Relations will convene at 9am in order to prepare a proposal for Parliament to form a delegation which will participate in the deliberations on the consensus Kingdom Laws and the amendment of the Kingdom Charter in the Dutch Second Chamber of Parliament in the period of April 6 through April 15.

Finally, a meeting of the Central Committee of Parliament will take place on the same day at 2pm to ratify the above-mentioned proposal to form the so-called "special delegates-committee." □

Government and AHATA sign historic MoU

Public and private contribution to create marketing funds



ORANJESTAD — The entire Aruba marketing is now formally a joint affair between the public and private sector. A deal that will mean that Aruba's marketing funds will see a substantial increase, from 31 million florins a year, to 52 million florins.

This week the Aruba Government reached a historic agreement with the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) for the creation of the Aruba Tourism Marketing Fund (ATMF).

The agreement is the crowning moment of efforts that started years ago, where particularly members of AHATA wanted to see a 'privatized' marketing fund for Aruba.

The argument behind the thought is that the funds for promoting and marketing the island need to be separated from the general budget of the Government. Experience has shown that allocating marketing funds in the general budget of the government

hampers the dynamic process required in the tourism industry. Red tape and even late budget approvals have worked negatively for Aruba in the past, as they created periods where the island did not receive any promotion, or could not market its product abroad.

The government will now allocate the sum it normally reserves annually for tourism marketing into the ATMF, and AHATA too will deposit its marketing money into it. A board comprising of Aruba Tourism Authority executives and representatives of AHATA will decide on the use of the funds, based on plans agreed upon in an open participation. The Aruba Tourism Authority, representing the government will continue function as the vehicle to help market the country, and also control and supervise the fund from July 1st till December 31, 2010, reporting directly to the Minister of Tourism.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed this week is therefore considered a "historic moment," according to Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber. As an advisor to tourism in previous AVP governments and later as Parliament member, Oduber always supported the creation of a separate fund for tourism, he said. In the past, his party presented law proposals to separate the marketing funds for Aruba from the general budget and to allocate the funds in an independent account. He acknowledged the entire process took 13 to 15 years, in the various governments that

led Aruba. There were many discussions on what structure needs to be in place in order to manage the deposits destined for securing a constant flow in the industry. The option of privatizing Aruba Tourism Authority was studied and even described on paper, but never came to be until now.

The Minister said negotiations with AHATA started since December 2009, during which the association received an outline of the vision the government has for the tourism industry of Aruba, particularly on the tourism product.

Continued on Next Page




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Government and AHATA sign historic MoU



Continued from Page B1 Moreover, it was the start of what the Minister qualifies as a dialogue between an important partner in the industry and the government.

After meeting several times, the parties were able to establish a relationship of trust, which had a resulted in the creation of the ATMF.

The ATMF will have direct consequences for the general budget of Aruba. The revenues of room taxes will now go directly into the fund, which means the public finances will have to be adjusted to this new situation.

It will create additional pressure for the Minister of Finance, Oduber acknowledged. "However, this is a challenge the Minister of Finance is up for, as it will work in the benefit of all.

Our government is convinced the only way to secure the Aruba Tourism Authority is by granting it an independent

fund," Minister Oduber continued, thanking Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister Mike de Meza for their support.

Former AHATA CEO Rob Smith made it his mission to achieve what he described as the Super Marketing Fund. Even though he did not reach his objective during his tenure, Smith must be satisfied that the idea is now a deal.

Minister of Tourism and Labor Otmar Oduber and AHATA CEO James Hepple signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the ATMF in presence of Minister of Finance Mike de Meza, AHATA board members as well as Aruba Tourism Authority representatives. □

Fundraising Event for the Clown Doctors at Paseo Herencia



NOORD - On Saturday, March 27th, Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center will be hosting a fundraising event organized by local young artists to help raise money for the Clown Doctors. The Clown Doctors organization helps children

in the hospital. The event will start at 7pm in the evening. During the event Clown Doctors will be selling raffle tickets through out the plaza. There will be many prizes such as: Palm Tours Catamaran Sunset by 2, Diesel Laptop Cases, Cinemas Tickets, Havana Nines Gift Certificate,



Setar Cell Phone, New Balance pair of Sneakers, Shorts, T-shirts, Caps and bags. Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center would like to invite everyone to come and give a helping hand to the Clown Doctors and also come and enjoy an evening with musical performances by our very own local artists. Stores at Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center are open Monday – Saturday from 10am – 10pm and on Sunday from 5pm – 10pm. □



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Each jurisdiction signed at least 12

OECD: Tax - Progress on exchange of information in the Caribbean

These agreements add to agreements signed with The Netherlands, The Netherlands Antilles, Aruba

During the past week Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Anguilla, an overseas territory of the United Kingdom, have signed a total of 14 tax information exchange agreements.

These signings bring the total number of agreements signed by each jurisdiction to at least 12 that meet the internationally agreed tax standard. Accordingly, Anguilla, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines become the 23rd, 24th and 25th jurisdictions to move into the category of jurisdictions that are considered to have substantially implemented the standard since April

2009. Since that time almost 370 agreements have been signed or brought up to the internationally agreed tax standard.

St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines today signed agreements with Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

These agreements add to agreements St. Kitts and Nevis had already signed with Australia, Monaco, The Netherlands, The Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, United Kingdom, Denmark, Belgium, New Zealand and Liechtenstein, bringing their total to 16 agreements. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has now

signed 16 agreements that meet the standard, including its existing agreements with Australia, Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands, Aruba, Liechtenstein, Belgium, Ireland, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

Anguilla, which signed an agreement with Australia and Germany on 19 March, had previously signed 11 other agreements – including agreements with the United Kingdom, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the seven Nordic economies – and this signing brings their total to 13 agreements that meet the internationally agreed tax standard.

Each of these jurisdictions is a member of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes and has agreed to participate in a peer review of their laws and practices in this area. According to the schedule of reviews published by the Global Forum, they will undergo reviews of their legal and regulatory framework for exchange of information in 2011 and reviews of their information exchange practices in 2013.




Jeffrey Owens, Director of the OECD's Centre for Tax Policy and Administration said, "we continue to see

a great deal of progress as jurisdictions move to sign agreements. With Anguilla, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines now reaching this benchmark, almost all of the Caribbean jurisdictions have substantially implemented the standard, and we will be working with the remaining jurisdictions – both in the Caribbean and elsewhere – to encourage them to follow this trend and provide whatever assistance we can. The real test will come with the peer review process, when the Global Forum can evaluate the quality of these agreements and the extent of the implementation of the standards in practice." □

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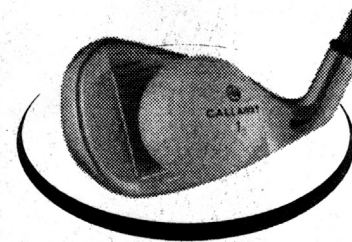
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Venezuela shunning talks with the Dutch



Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez

The Venezuelan government is unwilling to meet with Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs Maxime Verhagen told Dutch government officials, parliament on Thursday.



Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs Maxime Verhagen

The minister explained that he has tried to organize a high level meeting between the two countries several times, but that the Venezuelan government has been unwilling to cooperate. "Caracas is avoiding us," he said. Minister Verhagen would like to talk to Venezuelan President Chávez about an accusation the president made December last year. Mr Chávez claimed that the American government

was preparing an attack on Venezuela from the Dutch Caribbean islands of Aruba and Curaçao.

"The Netherlands is attached to our friendship with the Kingdom's largest neighbour," Mr Verhagen said, "We don't need any escalation of conflict in the area."

In the debate, Minister Verhagen also refuted the accusation that an American aircraft entered Venezuelan

territory. The picture that the Venezuelan government gave as evidence is very old and has been downloaded from the online encyclopedia Wikipedia, he argued. □

Frontier Software to supply WEB Aruba with chris21

Frontier Software plc has won a contract to supply WEB Aruba with chris21, a comprehensive human resource integrated solution, together with additional modules: L&D21 Learning and Development and HR21 Employee Self Service Module. WEB Aruba, Water-en Energie Bedrijf Aruba NV, is a water and energy supplier in Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, West Indies with 300 employees and contacted Frontier Software via Deloitte, the global consultancy.

Andrew Fingal, IT Manager with WEB Aruba, comments: "In conjunction with Deloitte, we decided that this was the best software solution that we have seen." Installation is scheduled for early 2010, with a go-live date soon after. Lucia Werleman, HR Officer Training & Development at WEB Aruba, says: "Our HR strategy has identified that some HRM responsibility will be decentralized to the line managers and we needed a HR system to achieve this - chris21 has demonstrated that this is possible. We were previously using a MS Access Custom-made HRM application but Frontier Software's integrated solution will give us much more flexibility." □

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Race Rescheduled

Team Aruba Achieves Career-Best Qualifying Effort in Houston



Fans excitedly awaited the qualifying rounds of the 2010 ADRL Dragpalooza VI, only to miss out on the final elimination rounds as a discouraging storm front moved across Baytown, Texas. With impending rain and strong winds quickly approaching, a final decision to reschedule the remaining qualifying and eliminations rounds was made for late July.

ORANJESTAD / SAINT LOUIS-- After enduring a long day of qualifying at Baytown's Houston Raceway Park, Trevor Eman and the Team Aruba crew achieved a career-best qualifying effort with an elapsed time (ET) of 4.090 at 177.30mph in the fourth qualifying round at the 2010 American Drag Racing League (ADRL) Universal Technical Institute Dragpalooza VI, presented by Safety-Kleen. "We were making better and faster runs every time we made it to the starting line," commented Eman, on the team's performance. Team Aruba's

efforts placed the team in the #5 spot in the Extreme Pro Stock (XPS) category.

Eman credits Team Aruba's crew for their successful qualifiers. "Carl Baker, our crew chief, was making good calls and Tommy had the clutch completely under control. Ken had his hands on all the other 'in-between round' maintenance and Bobby was taking good care of everybody that came by our www.Aruba.com 'free information booth' and the Autism Speaks donation box." After Friday's events, Team Aruba hosted a cook-out to celebrate Aruba's

National Anthem and Flag Day, featuring a variety of tasty foods in Texas-sized portions. "It isn't often that the XPS teams get to spend time together at races, because races are usually so hectic," Trevor mentions. "We were happy that a lot of ADRL officials and teams were able to take some time off and stop by." For now, the team and fans will have to wait until July 23rd to watch the remaining qualifying and event elimination rounds.

In addition, fans can tune into the Versus Network for comprehensive race coverage of Team Aruba.



People attending the event can now print free, online admission tickets at the ADRL website, www.adrl.us. For more information visit Team Aruba's website, www.teamaruba.com for exclusive

photos, news updates, and behind the scenes footage, or follow Team Aruba on Facebook to view exclusive video, see upcoming events, and discuss Team Aruba with fellow fans. □

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Human Beings are evolving. We are moving into fourth dimensional expression. This is a natural evolution of the species, and it means change for each of us on the most personal,

intimate level. The change within us will be natural, and when we become aware of the process, we can make changes in our daily decisions that will encourage and empower

the natural shift occurring within each of us. The right decisions can also make our lives graceful and easy.

We are making a shift from the third dimension ruled by our Ego, into the fourth dimension ruled by Love. Think of Love as Ego's complete surrender to Unification. When we shift from separation into Unity, the way we think of ourselves and interact with others will transform to become supportive and smooth. We'll be more understanding of each other. Cooperation will replace competition, as people realize that cooperation helps and competition hurts.

We can start by changing the way we approach our adversaries in life. Be they people, situations or both, we all encounter opposing forces throughout the day. When adversaries appear in our daily lives, our initial instinct is to engage their energy and fight against them. By engaging our adversaries, we lock ourselves to them.

Instead, when you encounter opposing forces throughout the day, disengage your emotions and embrace love and good feelings. I don't care how corny it sounds, when you're genuine about it, this technique is transformative.

When we direct love into

the person or situation, we apply the lubrication of Grace and remove all friction, for there is no friction in Love and Unity. Resistance exists only in Ego and Separation. In ego, we are tied to our enemies. In love, we gracefully release them.

When we detach emotionally, we disengage our ego. When we send love into the forces against us, we disengage their energy, and remove their power over us. Doing this will help you feel better too. By releasing your emotions and sending love, you detach yourself from the situation. When you are detached from something, you are not energetically connected. This means that the adversary cannot drain your energy or manipulate you.

It might be a challenge to separate your emotions from a situation, for Ego's pull is often irresistible. When you are overcome by emotion, you are presented with the perfect opportunity to be courageous and strong. Overcome your emotion when it is strongest, and you will find your true self, undistorted by fear. Your true self provides courage, and the more you overcome your emotions, the stronger you become.

To be clear, it is important to allow yourself to feel emotion, but you must

overcome it when it threatens to swallow you.

Use this method throughout the course of the day, and you will quickly see a difference in your life. It might not be instant, but with just a little time and focus, you will be amazed when people begin to treat you differently.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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matinee: 12.00 2.15 late show:

R CASE 39
daily: 5.45 8.15
matinee: 12.15 3.00 late show: 11.00

PG-13 OUR FAMILY WEDDING
daily: 5.30 7.45 9.45
matinee: 12.45 3.00 late show: 12.00

R FROM PARIS WITH LOVE
daily: 9.00
matinee: late show: 11.30

R GREEN ZONE
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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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Tonight, March 27 in the Renaissance Mall

The stage is for Spanish tapas on Saturday

Ernesto Ferro live at CILO tonight



ORANJESTAD - On Saturday, March 27 CILO organizes a Tapas Night with Spanish dances and decorations; you should not miss that for any reason. There is a Mojito bar and Caipirinhos; there is also a Sangria special in honor of Ernesto, the terrific guitar player whose Mediterranean songs can be heard across the marina. As the boats are bobbing smoothly on their moorings, Ernesto Ferro plays along to their rhythm.

Ernesto starts his performance at 9 pm. You can also enjoy the special on the beautiful Marques de Riscal Rioja wine from Spain. Stuffed cucumber with herb cheese, bruschettas, fried brie, gamba's in garlic, cazpaccio, stuffed tomatoes and many more tapas will sizzle your taste buds. At CILO taste and joy meet you smile!

CILO's tapas night starts at 7pm and will take till 12am



Clients can enjoy shopping until 9 o'clock in the evening

Renaissance Mall announces special opening hours

During Easter holiday

ORANJESTAD – Renaissance Mall, located in the center of Oranjestad with its wide variation of stores will have special opening hours during the Easter Holiday week. Special store hours will be valid from March 28th until April 7th. On Sunday March 28th, Renaissance Mall will be open from 11 o'clock in the morning giving you the opportunity to have a nice brunch and shop until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. As of Monday March 29th until Thursday April 1st the opening hours will be from 10 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock at night.

On Good Friday April 2nd they will be completely closed and are open again on Saturday April 3rd from 10.00 a.m. until 9.00 p.m. On Easter Sunday they are closed and for Easter Monday, April 5th, they will be open from 11 o'clock in the morning until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Two special days April 6th and 7th they will be open from 10.00 a.m. until 9.00 p.m. non-stop. Especially for the kids visiting the mall with their parents, on April 3rd the famous Easter Bunny will be sharing out chocolate Easter eggs. Kids will also have chance to take a memorable picture together with the Easter Bunny. The community of Aruba and our visitors are cordially invited to enjoy these special opening hours where you can still shop after working hours at the Renaissance Mall.



SUPERB NEW ILLUSIONS

MAGIC Live!. Comedy On the Beach 3 shows in 1

At the Westin Aruba at 9.PM nightly



Magician Adam Steinfeld laughs it up, on stage, at the Magic Live!® theater, showroom.

ASTONISHING! EXCITING! MYSTIFYING! FUN! ...enjoy a hilarious evening of Magic, fun for entire family.

PALM BEACH - STEINFELD presents WOW factor! at the MAGIC LIVE!® ...theater-of-illusions show, Westin - Aruba opened on December 25 at 9PM. MAGIC Live!® theater-of-illusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's

highest level, a lot of fun from start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how the heck did he do that?' Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld opened DEC 25, MagicLive show at the WESTIN, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate Magic Live!

theater-of-illusions theater, every seat is close to the stage. In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", a tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees,

then the sections are taken away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes!

Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world.

I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba,



and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored "the Houdini Conspiracy", aka "Houdini Lives!", a collaborated work with new england mystery writer

Al Blanchard, he believes will be turned into a feature film.

The intimate Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions showroom is located just off the lobby of the Westin-Aruba in high-rise area, j.e. irausquin boulevard 77. Palm Beach,

Aruba. Magic Live!® BOX OFFICE tickets are located in main lobby. Purchase TICKETS AT THE DOOR.

SEE MAGIC, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, MAGIC! theater-of-illusions show starring ADAM STEINFELD. MAGIC LIVE! theater-of-illusions show...at the WESTIN-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld. □



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show
Where: Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise area)
Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld
ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm
Tickets: at the door, MagicLive box office (hotel lobby), or Westin-aruba concierges desk
Box office opens at 7:30pm nightly
Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.95 adults

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"

ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

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"fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on

the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to

Catch your own dinner

12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm. A charter includes: captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

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Driftwood Restaurant

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Eat Right: 18 Tips That Really Matter Pt. 1

An à la carte menu to simplify your diet, get healthy, save the earth — and save money



1. Eat at Home and Cook for Yourself

Why cook for yourself? It's cheaper than eating out. It's fun. It's a chance to spend time with loved ones (or catch up on your favorite TV -- whatever works). You choose the ingredients. You control how nutritious it is. You drive less. You waste less food.

Why not cook for yourself? Time.

A little planning goes a long way. Stretch Sunday's meal into Monday and Tuesday's leftovers, try a slow cooker, develop new quick pasta recipes, learn to love root vegetables with a forgiving shelf life, and soups and stews that keep on giving.

Cooking for yourself is a habit like anything else. It's a habit that can help you lose weight, stay healthy, save money -- and do your part to save the planet. Oh -- and don't forget to eat your leftovers.

2. Eat Less Meat

Why eat less meat? Eating lower on the food chain is probably the single most important

thing you can do to help the environment. If the whole world stopped driving cars and SUVs, shipping goods in tractor trailers, flying planes, sending freighters across the ocean and all other transportation activity, it wouldn't do as much as if we all just stopped eating beef.

Livestock accounts for 18% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, according to the United Nations. That includes clearing land for grazing, raising grains for feed (often with the help of fossil fuel fertilizers) -- and the not insignificant burping of cows. All the fertilizer and pesticides used to grow grain, the antibiotics and hormones (often) used to speed up livestock growth on feed lots and the copious manure all add to the environmental impact of raising livestock.

Americans eat the equivalent of three quarter-pounders a day. (We are obsessed with meat.) If we each cut the equivalent of one hamburger from our daily diet (try the tomato rice soup pictured here), it would be like taking half million cars off the road. We might all live a little

longer, too.

When you do eat meat, look for ethically raised animals, raised locally on natural diets whenever possible.

3. Eat Real Foods

Why eat real foods? If your grandmother wouldn't have immediately recognized it as "food" there's a good chance it's less food and more manufactured good. Who wants to eat a manufactured good? There's a reason a Twinkie has a shelf life to rival a Nerf basketball.

Real foods are the basis for a commonsense diet. The only processing food needs is the cooking you do at home. Chances are, the less processing a food has been subjected to, the less energy and fewer resources have been expended manufacturing, packaging and transporting it to your grocery store.

And real foods haven't had all the nutrition processed out of them.

So read labels, and look for those foods with the shortest, most direct list of ingredients. Better, choose foods without labels because the items in the produce aisle are as real as it gets. A good place to start is The Daily Green's Real Food Diet.

4. Eat In Season

Why eat in season? There's a reason Locavore was the 2007 Oxford Word of the Year. Eating fruits and vegetables at the time of harvest means you're eating them when they're fresh, have traveled less and have been stored less. That means a tastier food that has typically required fewer resources to reach you. For instance, a blueberry in April (from Florida) to September (from Michigan) will arrive fresher -- and cheaper -- than its counterpart flown in from South America during the winter.

5. Shop Local, Buy Local

Why shop from the farm? Eating locally, and eating what's in season is easier when you shop at farmers' markets, farm stands or from a community supported farm (CSA is short



for "Community Supported Agriculture"). Spending your money locally at local farms also means you're helping to keep working farms viable, and that means keeping the scenery of your town or region intact.

Beyond that, when you shop direct from a farmer, you can ask questions about how produce was raised: "Were pesticides used? Fertilizers? What is she doing to control water pollution and soil erosion?"

Find local farm resources with a quick zip code search powered by Local Harvest on The Daily Green's homepage.

6. Start Your Own Backyard Garden

Why start your own garden? Hey, there's no farm like your own, and there's no food mile like no food miles. Besides the benefits of gardening that go beyond food -- time outdoors, quiet opportunities for contemplation, the satisfaction of having made something with your hands -- growing your own food means complete control over the quality of your

diet. You can also plan your garden to be part of a backyard landscape that supports birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife.

A small space is enough for a surprisingly productive garden (and don't forget to look for community gardens you can join). Even a sunny set of front stairs, or a window box, is enough to grow tomatoes, herbs and some other yummy produce. If you have a little more space, you can plan a bigger garden full of high-yield vegetables. To get started on an organic garden, see The Daily Green's How to Start an Organic Garden in 9 Easy Steps. If Michelle Obama can garden at the White House, you can too!

As you gain expertise, you can consider raising your own bees to pollinate your plants (beekeeping doesn't take much more effort than keeping a garden) and plant some tasty rare heirloom tomatoes and other vegetables that you will never find in a market, no matter how super. □



Lee: Don't waste the opportunity to re-engineer island government

PHILIPSBURG--President of the St. Maarten Hospitality & Trade Association (SHTA) Emil Lee is of the opinion that St. Maarten has a unique opportunity to reinvent and re-engineer government administratively and urged the relevant officials not to waste this opportunity.

Referring specifically to the constitutional change status, Lee said streamlining government operations, making government more efficient, more customer-friendly and more impactful should be of the utmost priority.

"Perhaps these things are being done. These comments are not meant as SHTA's intentions to tell government what to do. My point is simple. Don't be afraid of radical change, it is inevitable," Lee said. He was speaking at the SHTA's General Membership Meeting on Thursday evening.

"When someone tells you something can't be done, frame it against all the incredible things that have been done and don't assume it is true," Lee said, adding that implementing a statistical unit at the airport, incorporating the Tourism Authority, solving the traffic problems and building a hospitality school, should not be impossible tasks to

accomplish for St. Maarten.

"I'm not naïve. I know the solutions may not be easy but there are solutions. But it is my belief, that many of the issues that we speak about year after year can be solved if we are determined and committed," he said.

Lee argued that his comments were similar to what the Foreign Investment Advisory Service or FIAS report outlined in its report in 2001 on what needed to be done to get the Netherlands Antilles back to a good business climate and influence economic growth.

That report mentioned that successful reforms will probably not be possible without significant changes in the administrative set-up of the various governments of the Netherlands Antilles. "The red tape and delays, which are really exceptional compared to other countries around the world, stem in part from excessive duplication and complex procedures both within single island governments and between the two levels of government," Lee said.

He continued: "Government has clearly indicated that there will be human resource challenges, so why not look to simplify the process reducing



the administrative red tape and also reducing the burdens on the civil service."

He recommended that the issuing of specific work permits, business licenses, bus permits, taxi permits etc, should be delegated to the civil service with clear rules, policies and authorities.

These tasks, he said, should be accompanied by a transparent system of checks and balances.

"In much of the literature on re-engineering government, most recommend the decentralization of government decision making authority to those lower in the hierarchy, empowering the civil service to make effective

and timely decisions. Our political leaders would be able to focus on their core tasks of developing strategies, policies and legislation that will shape our country," Lee said.

The SHTA President also said the salaries of our elected officials should also be reviewed and increased, the election process and the way campaigns are financed should be examined and increased transparency would only benefit the electoral process. He also called for greater structural involvement of the stakeholders and community in general in the decision making process.

Three special guests were

also invited to the meeting to speak on the topic "10-11-10 The Day After". Attorney Richard Gibson, former Lt. Governor Dennis Richardson and President of the Princess Juliana International Airport Operating Company (PJIAE) Eugene Holiday were invited to form a panel and update SHTA's membership on the constitutional process and how St. Maarten will be "set up" after the target date of 10-10-10.

The SHTA also rescheduled its Board of Directors election to April 8 because of a shortage of members at the meetings. Two-thirds of the total membership has to be present for an election to take place. □

Budget debate to continue Monday

PHILIPSBURG--This Island Council is now expected to vote on the draft 2010 budget next week Monday when the debate resumes after a second lengthy adjournment since the proceedings started on Monday, March 22.

This second lengthy adjournment was called by Council Chairman Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards on Thursday because Director of Resources Hiro Shigemoto had to be in Curaçao for meetings on the division of assets and liabilities of the Netherlands Antilles.

Shigemoto is responsible for overseeing civil servants' compiling of the answers to questions posed by members of the Island Council. Already the civil service had to provide answers to 145 questions posed during the debate Monday.

Leader of Government National Alliance (NA) Commissioner William Marlin also left the island for Curaçao while the debate was still ongoing Thursday afternoon. He is to be present for the swearing-in of the new Central Government Cabinet and the new Antillean Parliament today.

NA Island Councilmen Rodolphe Samuel and George Pantophlet also left the meeting to return to Curaçao for their swearing-in as parliamentarians. The two

members returned to St. Maarten mid-morning for the budget debate and left again a few hours later.

The debate, which was not broadcast live on television reportedly because of technical problems, continued after their departure with opposition members at one point speaking only to Richards, who is also Executive Council Chairman, as all commissioners had left Dr. A.C. Wathey Legislative Hall.

DP Island Council members Sarah Wescot-Williams, Roy Marlin, Maria Buncamper-Molanus and Leroy de Weever continued to criticise the draft budget, the first presented by Finance Commissioner Xavier Blackman and the NA government.

All four members saw government's plans to collect unpaid wage taxes from businesses as being detrimental to the economy.

They said this pull to fill a budget hole would lead to businesses folding or going bankrupt in the already tough economic times and would increase unemployment.

The DP also presented two motions for Island Council approval. The first was a motion of no confidence against Commissioner Blackman, accusing him of failing to produce a budget in keeping with

general Kingdom measure on temporary financial supervision.

The second motion sought to instruct the Executive Council to honour the letters of comfort to The Westin St. Maarten Dawn Beach Resort and Spa and Sonesta Maho Beach Resort regarding the payment of room tax.

These motions, the draft budget that totals NAf. 323.6 million, seven amendments to the budget and a proposal from DP to facilitate the purchase of Mary's Fancy Estate are expected to be voted on by the Island Council next week Monday afternoon after the Executive Council provides answers to the additional questions posed by members of the Island Council.

Thursday's sitting of the Island Council was the continuation of the debate that had started on Monday morning. After several hours of debate, the meeting was adjourned for answers to be put together to questions posed by DP.

These answers were presented by Commissioners Blackman, Marlin, Heyliger, Frans Richardson and Hyacinth Richardson based on their portfolios. However, a package of written answers was not presented to DP members, causing some protest. □



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In An Enlightened Move

Westin Resort Goes Dark in Observance Of Earth Hour 2010 Starwood Hotels & Resorts Around the Globe Mark Environmental Awareness Event

PALM BEACH – Westin Resort, Aruba is leaving guests in the dark. But it's all for a good cause.

Westin Resort, Aruba will turn off its lights in observance of Earth Hour, a worldwide event organized by the World Wildlife Fund to send a powerful global message about environmental awareness and caring for the planet. Nearly one billion people turned out for Earth Hour 2009 – involving 4,100 cities in 87 countries on seven continents.

To underscore parent Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide Inc. dedication to environmental sustainability, Westin Resort, Aruba will also share other energy-saving measures during Earth Hour, March 27 at 8:30pm. Among them : Turning off exterior signage lighting; dimming or turning off non-essential interior lighting; using candlelight in appropriate public areas such as restaurants and bars; and using in-room voicemail messages and in-room television messages to inform guests about Earth Hour observances.

Earth Hour is drawing strong support from Starwood hotels around the globe. Last year, the unlit hotels offered striking visual imagery that provided an apt symbol of Earth Hour.

“We want to engage all of our guests in the awareness of Earth Hour and we have planned the following activities for this time period: A special Happy Hour at our poolside Tambu Bar with organic cocktails

from 8:30pm – 9:30pm , fireside cocktails, planetary punch, lemon drops, as well as live unplugged steel band surrounded by candle light. We also plan on having fireside story telling for the children and stargazing.” said Richard Roy, General Manager, Westin Resort, Aruba Hundreds of Starwood hotels around the world will also coordinate Earth Hour awareness events, including community walk-a-thons, public candlelight “unplugged” concerts, and receptions for guests featuring signature green cocktails.

About Earth Hour

On Earth Hour, March 27 2010, hundreds of millions of people around the world will come together to call for action on climate change by doing something quite simple—turning off their lights for one hour.

The movement symbolizes that by working together, each of us can make a positive impact in this fight, protecting our future and that of future generations. Since its inception three years ago, Earth Hour's non-partisan approach has captured the world's imagination and became a global phenomenon. Nearly one billion people turned out for Earth Hour 2009 – involving 4,100 cities in 87 countries on seven continents. Last year, 80 million Americans and 318 U.S. cities officially voted for action with their light switch, joining iconic landmarks from around the world that went dark for Earth Hour. More at www.myeearthhour.org.



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FARC ratificaron su voluntad de entrega de dos soldados secuestrados



Imagen de archivo del secuestrado soldado colombiano Pablo Emilio Moncayo, en un video sin fecha obtenido por Reuters. Julio 3 2007. REUTERS/Reuters TV/ARCHIVO

BOGOTA (Reuters) - La guerrilla colombiana de las FARC aplazó el viernes la entrega de los restos de un policía muerto en cautiverio, que se cumpliría simultáneamente con la liberación de dos rehenes militares, mientras que el

Ejército sugirió que los rebeldes no tienen el cadáver en su poder.

Sin embargo, las izquierdistas Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) -el mayor grupo guerrillero que combate en el país sudamericano- ratificaron

su voluntad de entregar en las próximas horas al sargento Pablo Emilio Moncayo y al soldado Josué Daniel Calvo. “Moncayo y Calvo están listos para su liberación. La entrega de los restos del mayor Guevara debemos aplazarla dado que el ejército ocupa el área donde se encuentran”, dijeron las FARC en un comunicado.

La senadora del Partido Liberal Piedad Córdoba viajará a Brasil el viernes en la tarde y regresará a Colombia el sábado con los dos helicópteros que recibirán a los militares en la selva, poniendo fin a sus prolongados secuestros.

El Gobierno calificó el anuncio de las FARC como una falta de respeto y un engaño, mientras que las Fuerzas Militares sugirieron que la guerrilla no tiene en su poder los restos del mayor

Julián Ernesto Guevara y por eso no los van a entregar.

“Esto no tiene ni pies ni cabeza, es una falta de respeto. No hay seguridad (de que las FARC tengan los restos de Guevara) esto nos hace pensar que es posible, que nos han estado engañando y que no tienen en su poder los restos”, dijo el alto comisionado para la paz, Frank Pearl.

“Las FARC tienen que ponerse serias y recuperar su credibilidad”, agregó el funcionario gubernamental.

El comandante de las Fuerzas Militares, general Freddy Padilla de León, ratificó por separado la hipótesis de que la guerrilla no tiene los restos de Guevara como lo anunciaron desde hace casi un año.

“Consideramos en las Fuerzas Armadas de Colombia que no hay justificación alguna para que no se cumpla con la entrega de los restos del mayor Guevara”, aseguró el oficial.

“Se nos pasa por la mente el recuerdo de Emmanuel. ¿Será que está ocurriendo una situación similar o será

también que simplemente quieren continuar esta agonía en procura de alguna manera sacar dividendos políticos?”, agregó.

SOMBRA DE ENGAÑO

El oficial se refirió a lo que sucedió hace más de dos años cuando la guerrilla se comprometió a entregar al hijo de la entonces rehén Clara Rojas, pero nunca cumplieron con la palabra empeñada porque no lo tenían en su poder debido que el niño estaba en un albergue del Gobierno con otra identidad.

Padilla anunció que el Gobierno y las Fuerzas Militares están dispuestos a dar las garantías necesarias para que devuelvan los restos y permitan a la familia sepultarlo.

La señora Emperatriz de Guevara, madre del oficial muerto en cautiverio, pidió a la guerrilla decir si tienen o no los restos de su hijo. “Yo lo único que quiero saber es la verdad, si existen o no existen los restos de Julián”, aseguró con tristeza. □

En Colombia

Acusan a guerrilla de usar “niño bomba”

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Un niño de 12 años murió luego que presuntos guerrilleros de las FARC, al parecer bajo engaño, lo mandaron a un cuartel en el suroeste de Colombia con una bomba destinada a atacar a policías acantonados en el lugar, denunció el viernes el Gobierno a la vez que condenó el hecho.

La explosión y muerte del niño se produjo el jueves en el municipio de El Charco, en el departamento de Nariño, fronterizo con Ecuador, como parte de un plan de las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) para interferir en las elecciones presidenciales de mayo, dijo un alto oficial.

“Un niño bomba, es terrible. Es una cosa espeluznante, estamos realmente muy tristes pero también muy enojados”, afirmó el gobernador de Nariño, Antonio Navarro.

El funcionario ofreció una recompensa de 10.000 dólares a quien suministre información que permita capturar a las personas que le entregaron los explosivos al niño, miembro de una humilde familia que cursaba primaria en un colegio local. Las autoridades no reportaron más víctimas mortales ni heridos por la explosión que causó daños materiales. □

Papa recibe al presidente de Guatemala



El presidente de Guatemala Alvaro Colom besa la mano del papa Benedicto XVI el viernes 26 de febrero del 2010 en el Vaticano. (AP foto/Tony Gentile, pool)

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (AP) - El papa Benedicto XVI intercambió opiniones el viernes sobre la situación internacional con el presidente de Guatemala, Alvaro Colom, “con especial referencia a los desafíos planteados por la pobreza, la delincuencia y la emigración”. “También se ha recalcado la importancia de promover la vida humana,

desde el momento de la concepción, y el papel de la educación”, agregó el Vaticano en un comunicado sobre la visita de Colom al Papa. Posteriormente Colom se reunió con el cardenal Tarcisio Bertone, secretario de Estado, quien estuvo acompañado por el arzobispo Dominique Mamberti, secretario para las Relaciones con los Estados. □

Chile intenta ponerse de pie tras un mes de terremoto y tsunamis

SANTIAGO (Reuters) - Camino al malogrado aeropuerto de Santiago, acopios de escombros crecen cada día en señal de que la capital de Chile intenta sacudirse del polvo y ruinas dejadas hace un mes por un devastador terremoto y varios tsunamis en el centro y sur del país sudamericano.

Con la decisión tomada hace unas semanas de los equipos de rescate de abandonar las tareas de hallazgo de sobrevivientes y una menor intensidad en la búsqueda de cadáveres, especialmente en las costas, el país intenta ahora ponerse de pie e iniciar su millonaria reconstrucción pese a las latentes réplicas.

Sebastián Piñera, quien asumió el 11 de marzo la presidencia de la nación en un acto en el puerto de Valparaíso, entre réplicas y una alerta de tsunami, aseguró que su foco estará en la reconstrucción, en un giro de lo que promocionó en su campaña como su plan de Gobierno.

“Ahora se inicia una segunda etapa (tras la emergencia), que es la urgencia de dar techo y no permitir que el invierno asole a cientos de miles de familias que perdieron sus viviendas”, dijo Piñera en un acto público esta semana.

“(También debemos) restablecer el normal funcionamiento de nuestras escuelas, recuperar la capacidad de atender a nuestros enfermos (...) recuperar la conectividad para que el aparato productivo se vuelva a poner en marcha, son las grandes tareas del otoño e invierno (austral)”, agregó. Piñera busca dar vuelta a la página manchada por saqueos, toques de queda y ollas comunes días después del sismo de magnitud 8,8 y de las olas que durante la madrugada del 27 de febrero dejaron pueblos por el suelo o borraron del mapa a decenas de villas costeras.

El debut del nuevo Gobierno no ha



Imagen de archivo de un sobreviviente del terremoto y tsunami que azotó a Chile, recolectando escombros en Pelluhue. Mar 10 2010. REUTERS/Victor Ruiz Caballero/ARCHIVO

estado exento de tropiezos, como por ejemplo la corrección de la cifra de fallecidos, que de 500 bajó a 342, aunque en el ocaso de la administración de Michelle Bachelet se informó de 800 muertos. □

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